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MICHAEL ARES | DAILY 49ER

Red and yellow sequined lions bring good fortune to California State University, Long Beach by performing a dance at Maxson Plaza on Tuesday.

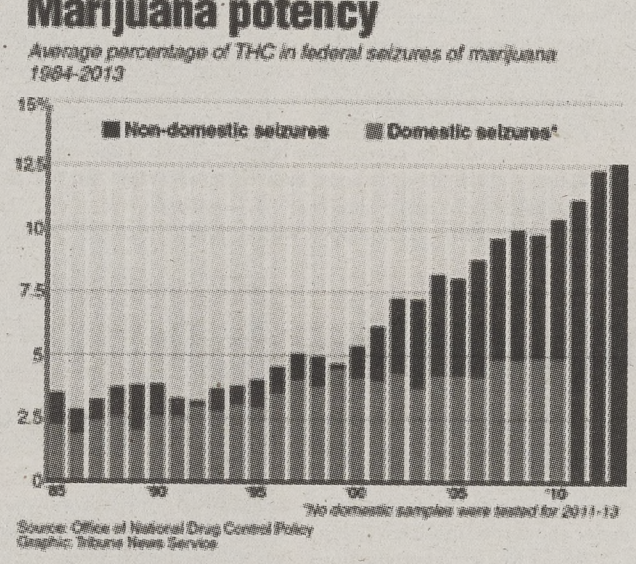
THE LUCK OF THE LION

see page 3

OPINION

Legalize medical marijuana on campus

BLAKE PINTO
Contributing Writer



Marijuana policy is an issue stuck in limbo and in need of blazing legislative action. California State University, Long Beach should be the spark.

California legalized the prescription of marijuana for medicinal purposes in 1996 with Proposition 215, or the Compassionate Care Act. Then, in 2003, the state updated this law to include the use of medical marijuana identification cards.

At CSULB, the only drugs allowed on campus are those "lawfully prescribed or otherwise lawfully permitted."

It should be legal for a student with the proper prescription or identification card to possess marijuana at any time, including on campus.

However, "marijuana, whether prescribed or otherwise, is prohibited on campus grounds and facilities," the handbook of campus regulations says in the section, "Drugs on Campus."

Though a student may have a legal prescription in the state of California for the medicinal drug, he or she becomes a criminal once they step foot on campus.

"Possession on campus, even with a Prop. 215 card, is prohibited," Crime Prevention Sargeant Keith Caires said.

Let's hope this policy is not in place out of a concern that thousands of students would begin roaming campus baked out of their minds. After all, alcohol is available on campus at 11 a.m., and classes aren't full of drunks.

When you treat people like adults, they act like it.

The regulation most certainly isn't there out of health or safety risks that marijuana may pose to students.

According to the same set of regulations, students with appropriate

See MARIJUANA, page 6

Part-time faculty members outnumber full-time professors

Academic freedom and student success is impacted by decreased tenure density.

BY KEVIN FLORES
Video Producer

Part-time employees make up a majority of California State University, Long Beach's faculty.

As of fall 2014, there were 1,304 part-time faculty members versus 979 who had full-time commitments, according to demographic information compiled by CSULB Institutional Research and Assessment.

Norbert Schurer, a member-at-large of the Academic Senate Committee, said that alumni who return to campus because they need a letter of recommendation or advisement might find that their professors are no longer work at the university. He said that turnover for lecturers is about five years.

"It is in a student's long-term interest to have faculty who have a long-term commitment to the university," Schurer said.

Most of the part-time faculty consists of lecturers with temporary contracts for about three years. After that, universities renew these temporary contracts, depending on performance evaluations and departmental need. Budget constraints and enrollment also factor into the decision of renewing a lecturer's contract. The increasing number of lecturers who are on temporary contracts has no way to directly advance into tenure-track status.

A decrease in tenured professors hurts students because tenure preserves academic freedom by protecting professors from censorship, Boak Ferris, a lecturer in the English Department, said.

The difference between part-time lecturers and full-time tenured pro-

See **TEACHING**, page 2

NEWS 2 | DIVERSIONS 4 | OPINIONS 6 | SPORTS 8

TEACHING

continued from page 1

fessors is not based on their teaching abilities or performance, Ferris said.

"A lot of times [part-time lecturers] are geniuses in their fields," Ferris said.

The reliance on contract lecturers has increased throughout CSU institutions. Since 1998, lecturers with temporary contracts at CSU institutions have outnumbered full-time tenure or tenure-track faculty, according to an opinions article printed in the Sacramento Bee in February.

According to the CSU website, lecturers make on average $40,000 less than full-time tenured professors per year. Due to this pay disparity, part-time lecturers often find themselves shifting between jobs at two or three different campuses, earning them the nickname "freeway flyers" and leaving them with less time to interact with students outside of class, Schurer said.

CSULB Executive Director of News and Digital Media Michael Uhlenkamp said he attributes the current hiring trend on the recent recession and budget crunches.

A recent report published by the California Faculty Association, a union that represents CSU faculty, found that regardless of whether state funding was up or down or whether tuition rose or not, spending on faculty salaries remained the same.

In 2001, the California State Legislature passed ACR 73, a resolution urging CSU to raise the proportion of faculty who are tenured or tenure-track to 75 percent. This process is known as tenure density.

In a recent speech to the Academic Senate, President Jane Close Conoley said that the current tenure density for the university is nearly 54 percent. She also said that she was committed to increasing tenure density at CSULB.

Uhlenkamp said he agreed with Conoley's position to increase the ranks of tenure or tenure-rank faculty, adding that it will make a positive impact on student success. He said that there are currently 63 ongoing searches for tenure or tenure-track positions.

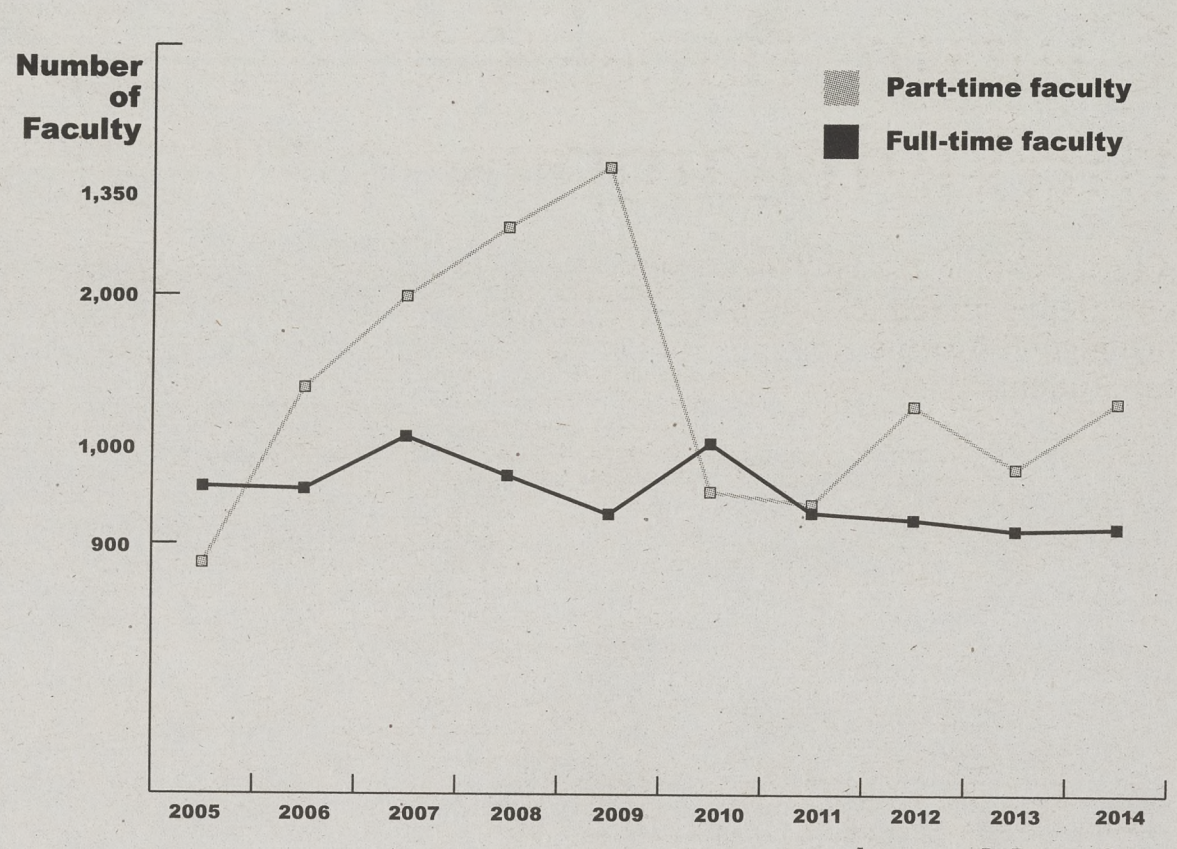


ILLUSTRATION BY DANIELLE CARSON

CRIME BLOTTER

String of thefts reported at science buildings

BY COLLIN JAMES
Contributing Writer

Students and faculty reported seven incidents of theft on March 9 at 11:22 a.m. from the Hall of Science and Molecular and Life Sciences building, Lt. Richard Goodwin of University Police said. The thefts occurred over the last two weeks. The items stolen included four wallets containing cash, cards and personal information along with miscellaneous property, Goodwin said. Police say they do not yet know if the thefts are connected. Police are investigating the incident, but do not have any leads presently.

Laptop reported stolen

A student reported her laptop stolen on March 5 at 11:35 a.m., Goodwin said. The report came from a 21-year-old female. The victim told police her laptop may have been taken either during a break-in to her car on March 2 or while she was in class in that same week. The laptop is described as a silver MacBook Pro and is valued at $1,100. No suspects have been identified.

Bike reported stolen from engineering building

A student reported his bicycle stolen from the southwest corner of the engineering building at 4:30 p.m. on March 5, Goodwin said. The victim, a 21-year-old male student, said that the theft occurred between 9:30 a.m. and noon. He described the bike as a blue, Fuji Sportif, 14-speed road bike valued at $449. The victim found his cable lock, which secured his bike, cut. No suspects have been identified.

CSULB passes 'My Brother's Keeper' Initiative

The university passed an assembly bill to provide better opportunities for young people to enter the workplace successfully.

BY RIVA LU
Contributing Writer

To improve opportunities for male students of color at California State University, Long Beach, the Associated Students Inc. Senate passed a bill supporting President Obama's "My Brother's Keeper" community challenge, according to an ASI bill summary.

ASI Assembly Bill 80 would create the Interagency Task Force on the Status of Boys and Men of Color. The bill serves as a support mechanism for department agencies and people who work with schools outside their own.

"ASI decided to support the bill because it aligns with our campus' mission to make sure that all CSULB students are equipped with the resources for the best outcome from their educational experience," ASI Vice President Nayiri Baghdassarian said. "The taskforce also goes long with a program that we already have on our campus, the Men's Success Initiative."

ASI's bill stated that the taskforce's responsibilities would be to develop strategies to enhance positive outcomes and eliminate or reduce negative outcomes for boys and men of color in the state. The taskforce would consist of members of the legislature and representatives from specific agencies, departments and private entities.

The Men's Success Initiative program aims to support male students of color to succeed academically.

"It is the mission of CSULB and ASI to create an accessible, affordable and quality system of education," Elizabeth Zambrano, the ASI Secretary for Systemwide Affairs, said. "Any measure that helps makes higher education accessible, our student government will support. This bill reflects the efforts already being implemented on our campus on a statewide level that goes beyond higher education."

The city of Long Beach hosted a local action summit in January to discuss ideas of the "My Brother's Keeper" initiative, which discussed ideas for achieving positive life outcomes for the youth.

"Participating in the 'My Brother's Keeper' Community Challenge would help Long Beach build upon many existing programs to create more opportunities for success for all our youth," councilmember Rex Richardson said.

The summit reviewed approaches for ensuring that the city's youth are physically and mentally prepared to graduate from high school and successfully enter the workforce while remaining safe from violent crimes.

"CSULB has a large population of people of color, but a small population of men of color," Zambrano said.

The ASI bill states that the taskforce would address the challenges facing boys and men of color in California, and assist departments and agencies in improving life outcomes for this population.

"We need to make sure that every current and future student has the essential resources and support needed to succeed here at CSULB and beyond, Zambrano said.

She said that students can get involved by attending CSULB Lobby Corps every Thursday at 3:30 p.m. to become more informed about legislation that affects campuses state and nationwide.

Deadly helicopter crash in Argentina increases reality TV filming death toll

The deaths of 10 people during the filming of a reality TV show in Argentina on Monday has drawn new attention to recurring safety issues for an entertainment genre that has suffered a number of fatal accidents in recent years. The collision of two helicopters in La Rioja province killed two French Olympians and a prominent French sailor, as well as members of the show's production team.

They were filming a "Survivor"-like French reality show called "Dropped" at the time. The fatal accident, which has dominated French media and prompted an outpouring of condolences for the well-known athletes, has a death toll that stands out among recent incidents.

In 2013, a helicopter crash in a remote area of Los Angeles County killed three people during filming for a Discovery Channel reality show. That crash was the worst film set accident in California since the 1982 deaths of actor Vic Morrow and two children, who were killed in a helicopter crash while filming "Twilight Zone: The Movie."

In February 2012, a co-executive producer was also seriously injured after being thrown from a boat into a murky river while filming "Bamazon," a series for the History channel about out-of-work Alabama construction workers mining for gold in a rain forest in Guyana.

And in August, an employee of the long-running reality show "Cops" was accidentally shot and killed by police officers during a taping in Omaha. The cameraman was struck while trying to film a robbery.

Safety questions have been raised about feature film sets as well. Last year, a freight train in Georgia plowed into crew members filming "Midnight Rider," a movie about rock musician Gregg Allman. The crash left a production assistant dead and that film's director, Randall Miller, pleaded guilty this week to charges that included manslaughter and criminal trespassing.

Many safety mishaps on sets go unreported because crew members sign nondisclosure agreements and fear being blacklisted if they file lawsuits. Record-keeping can be muddled by the fact that many of the shows are nonunion, and workers are often classified as independent contractors.

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration tracks only serious accidents involving employees and has no jurisdiction if incidents occur in foreign countries.

Judicial authorities in Paris have opened an involuntary manslaughter investigation into Monday's crash, which is common in fatal incidents involving French citizens abroad, according to Agence France-Presse. Adventure Line Productions was producing the show.

Nonce Paolini, chairman and chief executive of France's TF1, which airs the show, expressed shock about the accident in a statement. In France, TF1 is among the most popular stations in the country with 8.5 million viewers who watch a range of programming, including news, sports and films, according to 2014 audience ratings.

The show "Dropped" focuses on celebrities being blindfolded and dropped in remote locations around the world.

"We are in shock and really very, very, very, very sad," he said. "It's a hard ordeal for these families and it's a hard ordeal for all of us," he said. "You know this job, we do this to bring pleasure to people."

U.S. Rep. Ted Lieu (D-Calif.), who in 2013 was a California state senator heading the Labor and Industrial Relations Committee, warned then that "reality shows are ... encouraging people to do dangerous acts."

"The problem that we've had is that obviously California law can't reach out to other states or foreign countries where a lot of these shows are filmed," Lieu said.

— Kurtis Lee and Megan Garvey,
Los Angeles Times

Culture dances through campus

A Chinese Lion Dance on campus aimed to bring good fortune for students trying to study abroad.

BY MADISON MOORE
Contributing Writer

A pair of red and yellow sequined lions danced in harmony to the beat of a drum en route from the University Library to bring good luck and fortune.

The Department of Asian and Asian American Studies hosted the Chinese Lion Dance Procession on Tuesday.

"The lion has many different features for good luck," Jeremy Hector, a California State University, Long Beach alumnus, the drummer in the procession and a 20-year lion dance veteran, said. "One of which is the mouth that drives away evil."

The dance aimed to bring good fortune and raise awareness for students wanting to study abroad this summer, according to Teri Yamada, the chair of the department of Asian and Asian American Studies.

"To be able to go to either Taiwan or China to go study the language makes a huge difference," Yamada said in reference to the fact that most AAAS students are studying Asian languages.

Michael Uhlenkamp, CSULB's executive director of media and digital news, said that the dance also intended to help raise funds for the students to study abroad who are underrepresented or from low-income families.

University President Jane Close Conoley addressed the AAAS department and students and joined them for the procession.

"We want to raise the number of students who have access to study abroad within just an extra year," Conoley said in a brief speech before the dance. "That's a very important university-wide goal for adventuresome students who want to become global citizens."

Karen Yee, a senior Chinese and geography major who is planning to study abroad in Shanghai this summer, said that students should be able to experience studying abroad.

"It looks really good on applications and can raise a person's worldliness," Yee said. "If you understand the culture, you can understand the people more, which makes learning the language a lot easier."

Yee said that the trip to Shanghai is about $3,000 per student. She said that AAAS has raised about $1,000 so far.

"[This] is good, but then it's split between everybody so then it's not as much," Yee said. "But every little bit helps."

Hector said that the idea of good luck from the lion originated when an emperor had a dream about a cat-like creature that would bring him good luck.

Yamada said she is calling on CSULB students to help raise funds for fellow classmates who hope to study abroad.

"I ask that instead of buying a cup of coffee or tea, CSULB students donate that money one time to their student colleagues," Yamada said. "In turn, the students being funded know they have to return something positive to society for this chance."

If students want to donate, they can go online to gofundme.com/csulb-go-asia.

The Department of Asian and Asian American Studies tries to raise awareness for study abroad programs with the Chinese Lion Dance Procession on Tuesday.

MICHAËL ARES | DAILY 49ER

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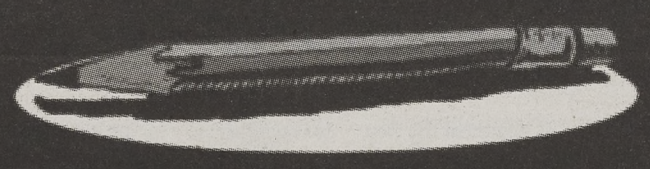

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Covers mean nothing to me

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★ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

"Seth Avett & Jessica Lea Mayfield sing Elliot Smith"

Ramseur Records
Released Mar. 17

Elliot Smith tribute album fails to impress.

By Jesus Ambrosio
Radio Producer

> **Cover songs are never as good as the original. Ever.**

Cover songs are never as good as the original. Ever.

Although there are some exceptions to this rule, Seth Avett and Jessica Lea Mayfield's attempt to take on songs by the late Elliot Smith only solidify the theory.

It's always nice to honor a musician and their collection of work, but there are a variety of ways to approach how a song should be recreated— especially because there are two kinds of people: those who have no idea who Elliot Smith is, and those who are die-hard fans of his work.

One of the best things about Smith's work is that often times, his songs sounded unfinished. Avett and Mayfield attempt to conclude his masterpieces, ruining the initial charm that was heard many years ago.

They completely ignore the genius of the original tracks, and make polished renditions that are nothing special.

Within the spectrum of the indie genre, Smith most notably utilized indie folk and lo-fi elements. His minimalist recordings intentionally have a lower quality than the standard stereo or mono track, creating kinks and grittiness that is required to Smith's aesthetic. The duo cleans the tracks of their intentional disparity and aligns the songs with every other post-production pop hit.

The album starts with "Between The Bars" as Mayfield wails the lyrics "Drink up baby, stay up all night." The vocals resemble the lo-fi qualities, however, her voice is whining instead of animated, which could have easily been fixed by channeling a tortured timbre to her tone.

While some of the folk elements remain, the songs are unrecognizable to the originals.

Avett and Mayfield condense a discography of seven albums into a measly 12 songs. They chose some of the more well known songs by Smith like "Baby Britain," "Somebody That I Used to Know," "Roman Candle" and "Memory Lane."

This first track is the only real tease of anything that might be remotely close to Smith's sound, but traverses into a completely different genre for the rest of the album.

Kidz Bop could make better covers of these songs. At the very least, they would just change the lyrics.

The album may serve as a misguided introduction to Smith for those who are unfamiliar with his music, but this is by no means an appropriate substitution for fans of Smith looking for a music fix.

The duo's collaboration is actually a creative combination, but the pair should have stuck to their own artistic cues and left the punk-fold legend alone.

Foot-tramping for the soul ★★★½☆

Upcoming indie flick charms audiences into harsh reality.

By Brooke Becher
Diversions Editor

Director: Danny Jacobs, Darren Grodsky

Starring: Josh Lawson, Adam Brody, Wyatt Cenac, Danny Jacobs

Runtime: 90 minutes

Release: March 20

Hipsters, unite! "Growing Up and Other Lies" makes it to the must-see list of meaningful-core films.

With a screenplay dependent upon dialogue and the niche aesthetic of desaturation crucial to indie aesthetics, directors Danny Jacobs and Darren Grodsky put the anti-coming-of-age genre back on the marquee. "Growing up" will be released to theaters on March 20.

Memory lane stretches across all of Manhattan, New York for four friends diverting from their day-to-day routine to relive 280 blocks of nostalgia.

Jake, played by Josh Lawson, is contemplating his departure from the big city after scraping by on an artist's income and several existential crises later. But before his return to Ohio, he persuades his three best men to join him on a final, foot-tramping hurrah through the borough.

Rocks, played by Adam Brody, is in denial of his loveless relationship with a woman carrying his son. Billy, played by Danny Jacobs, is the peppy friend whose only regret is outgrowing his buddies. Wyatt Cenac's character, Gunderson, is just … there.

Maybe they're not exactly the Central Park friends or ladies who lunch coterie audiences have come to love, but the characters behind the crises are sure to strike a familiar chord with the viewer's inner circle.

It's great to see Brody, the lanky, former "OC" heartthrob whose magazine cutouts lined walls of pubescent girls' rooms everywhere, in action again.

Brody and his brooding cohort Benjamin McKenzie were two of the core-four actors in the decade old Newpsie-infested series that actually had some promise in the acting department. Yet, the actor has settled for a glut of forgettable cameos since his four-season reign as god of all geeks.

The film's ability to speak to everyday truisms adds to its likeability.

Its characters unfold primarily through spontaneous decisions to visit artsy coffee shops and workplaces from the past. The scenes are mended together by stream-of-consciousness conversation, which helps bring the viewer into the walk as well.

As it turns out, Jake's flock of friends is not necessarily of the 'Ride or Die' breed, but rather of the 'Walk Until I'm Over it' genus.

"Growing Up" depends heavily on character development through dialogue.

Although this hinders the audience's ability to emotionally invest into the film, the artistic decision to do so greatly contributes to the self-fulfillment and self-discovery themes critical to open-ended dramas like "Garden State" or "In the Land of Women."

Warning: This indie-flick does not meet many of the shallow criteria trademarked by Hollywood cookie-cutter prototypes.

The most recognizable face is not featured as the main role. The overtones of the film's message actually require some thought. The car chases, the steamy sex scenes and even the Dorito-deprived leading lady were dropped from the script.

Directors Jacobs and Grodsky left the bread in the bag, leaving the audience without a sense of beginning and end. Instead, the story jumps straight into 90 minutes of meat for an added indie archetypal touch.

"Growing Up and Other Lies" is a one-on-one session with harsh reality where the truth is painfully pleasing.

Judah and the Lion roar at the Wiltern

Q&A

Members of an Americana folk-band come together in California, talking travel and new tracks.

By Sarah Borean
Contributing Writer

With a little bit of folk, pop and bluegrass, Tennessee-based band Judah & the Lion will jam at The Wiltern in Los Angeles on Wednesday.

The trio is on tour with the eclectic crossover musician, Matt Kearney, and is amplifying sounds from their recently released EP "Kids These Days."

"When we found out that Matt was interested, it was yet again another dream come true," banjo player and vocalist Nate Zuercher said. "We have all been listening to him for a long time."

Tennessee native Judah Akers, Coloradan Zuercher and Chicago-raised Brian MacDonald met at Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee and started the group in 2011.

The Daily 49er caught up with Zuercher to ask about the recording of the group's third compilation.

I know you all grew up in very different parts of the country, so how did the band come together?

We all went to school in Nashville at "Bell." Judah had written a few songs and heard about Brian and me playing folk music in church. He thought it would be a cool thing to try out. We all had lunch together and played in the bell tower on campus. Everything just really clicked.

Is this your first time touring in California? What are you excited most about?

We did a three-person showcase in Los Angeles at Hotel Café, but as far as the rest of the state, this is my first-time touring here. We kind of neglected the west coast, very unintentionally. But since we started, we've seen, especially in LA and Seattle, a lot of people engaging and downloading our stuff and getting excited. One of our favorite things of what we do is engaging with our fans, building relationships and just sharing life. [It's all about] getting outside of the computer, shaking hands and hearing stories.

"Kids These Days" is the first EP that the band didn't self-produce; how has the sound of the band evolved?

Dane Cobbs worked with us in Nashville, and he said, "Lets try Moe on a synthesizer bass on this song, just for fun." At first we were kind of hesitant for sure, because up until then we had an upright bass on all of our songs. We were willing to try things and change it up. It just brought a whole new life to the songs that they had never really experienced before.

What sets the EP apart from your other recordings?

This last release seems a lot more energetic; it's more electronic-based, synthesizer-based and things like that. "Kids These Days" has definitely been a group effort.

More about the band and tickets to their latest tour can be found at Judahandthelion.com.

Artists massage creative juices

CSULB alumnus Brian Davis transforms the Max L. Gatov Gallery into an interactive environment.

BY SEAN GALLAGHER
Contributing Writer

Two massage tables stood a few feet away from each other. People laid down getting full body and head massages, utterly relaxed. Just across the room, a bearded man stood behind a juicer, handing out cups of fresh juice to a line of people.

It sounds like a health convention or natural food appreciation event, but this week, that's what viewers will see in FA3's Max L. Gatov gallery.

"The exhibit calls to question traditional notions of art by intertwining interactive events and performances," Brian Davis, the feature BFA Senior Solo Show artist, said.

Davis, who has a bachelor's degree in ceramics from California State University, Long Beach, has aimed to create not only an art exhibit to be seen and appreciated, but also an entire room for participants to experience and interact with.

He looked to other artists as well as his own thoughts and experiences while creating his exhibit. Davis said that he was exposed to a variety of environments and cultures at a young age since his family moved a lot.

"I was inspired by the engaging works of artists like Matthew Silver and Pierre Huyghe as well as my own innate sense of human community," he said.

Davis' aim with this exhibit is "to take [his] work beyond mere objects into a place between the viewer and the art."

Traveling continues to influence Davis' work, as well as the assortment of job titles that come with it. He has been to 33 states and 14 countries, working as a busboy, art warehouse manager, assistant art teacher and corporate contractor in the medical field.

Perhaps the most eye-catching part of the exhibit is Davis' performance-juicing, which he says is meant to "break down social barriers and [his] own shyness, and call to question traditional notions of art by intertwining interactive events and performances in the installation."

Gallery goers like Cory Olewnik heard about the exhibit through Facebook, and gave their feedback as she waited in line for a fresh blend.

"I really love the interactive aspect, it makes this exhibit extremely unique and memorable," Olewnik said.

Broccoli, apples, lemons and even heads of bok choy comprised the table's assortment of fresh produce in the interactive art piece.

"To me, the art is in the wake of this series of events and how it alters our minds and bodies via nutritious juices," Maccabee Shelley, a post-baccalaureate of studio art from Humboldt State University, said.

Shelley sat behind a typewriter at the exhibit, using the handmade machine from Nicaragua to read audience members' futures. He is a fellow art student like Davis, and had a previous showcase of his ceramic works largely composed of glass.

"While there are many objects and various types of documentation in place," Shelley said. "It is the memories, feelings and interactions that blur the line between viewer and art and challenge our ideas of which is more valuable."

In addition to massage tables and fresh juices, there was a table set up like a mini art studio with a camera. At this station, guests of the gallery could take pictures and write their contact information on a list to have their work sent to their email.

"This is an awesome experience, and the juice is really tasty," Pablo, "Into-the-Mystic" who was outside playing in a drum circle, said. "Through the interactivity of the gallery, I really feel the connection to the human spirit."

As for the future, Davis' plans are as adventurous and unconventional as his exhibit.

"I am graduating and moving straight to Italy to work with a 72 year-old Egyptologist who owns an agritourism bed and breakfast," Davis said. "I will be cataloging his collection of artifacts for a museum he is establishing, as well as constructing a ceramic studio at his new art-center."

The weekly student art galleries are located between the FA1 and FA2 buildings from noon and 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

MICHAEL ARES | DAILY 49ER
Top, BFA Senior Solo Show artist Brian Davis creates juices for the exhibit attendees at the Max L. Gatov Gallery on Sunday. Above, CSULB alumni performs a dance using flow flags.

MARIJUANA
Continued from page 1

prescriptions can possess Oxycontin, Percocet and Vicodin while on campus, despite the fact that 71 percent of fatal overdoses in 2013 involved painkillers, according to the CDC.

No, our campus regulations are a symbol of the joke that marijuana regulation has become.

"I have no problem with people using [marijuana] for medical purposes," Caires said. "But 90 percent of what I see is abuse."

Caires is probably right, if abuse means using marijuana without a prescription, but what about the other 10 percent? Should they some have their legal right to take medicine infringed upon because most of the people Caires sees are using the drug recreationally?

Sometimes, we let preconceived notions get in the way, and we forget the 10 percent in need.

Senior theater major Peter Fellows chose not to inform DSS of his medicinal marijuana prescription out of fear that he would lose his financial aid.

"Financial aid demands [that] all funds distributed [are] repaid if you are caught violating campus drug policy," Fellows said.

At ten years old, Fellows was diagnosed with an eye disease called Retinus Pigmentosa, which will most likely leave him blind one day. A few years ago, he said he began suffering from unexplained hand tremors.

Fellows used marijuana for the first time when he got a prescription for it at the age of 21.

He said he prefers to use the edible forms of marijuana – which have an increased cannabidiol content – and *that the prescription helps with his hand* tremors.

Cannabidiol is a component of the plant that has medicinal properties and does not make the user feel "stoned," according to the Project CBD, a website defending cannabis therapeutics.

If the tremors begin acting up while Fellows is at school, he must wait until he gets home where he leaves his medication because of the campus regulation, Fellows said.

Caught in a cultural divide, marijuana's scientifically proven medical benefits are usually outweighed by the stigma it carries.

"If a student is in so much pain that they need to smoke a doobie before the test, then they're probably not going to pass the test," Disabled Student Services Coordinator of Support Services and Advising Peter Perbix said.

This doesn't mean the student with the proper legal prescription shouldn't maintain the right to possess a "doobie." The labels of prescription painkillers do not advise popping a few pills just prior to an exam, but you are still legally allowed to possess them.

California legalized medicinal marijuana almost two decades ago, so why are patients still facing contradictory campus regulations?

"The university obviously has the ability to enact or revise policy," Executive Director of News and Digital Media Michael Uhlenkamp said via email. "The campus regulation on this issue follows federal law."

Federal law can be challenged, though. And as the four states that *recently legalized the use of recreational* marijuana and the 21 states that have legalized it for medical purposes have shown, the feds simply have bigger issues to worry about.

CSULB can continue to impose archaic regulations, or it can be the first campus in the California State University system to catch up to reality and go to bat for sick and disabled students by legalizing medical marijuana.

EVENT

"STOP U.S. POLICE OF 'ENDLESS WAR'!"
by the Act Now to Stop War and End Racism Coalition

WHEN: Saturday, March 21 at noon

MEET: at the CNN building, 6430 W. Sunset Blvd 90028 to protest and march to the Armed Forces Recruitment Center in Hollywood.

ON MARCH 21, IT WILL BE 12 YEARS SINCE THE U.S. INVASION OF IRAQ IN 2003.

The U.S. government still sends U.S. troops and bombs back to Iraq and Afghanistan, continues destruction in Libya and Syria and funds and supports crimes against the Palestinian people. This event is part of a nationwide day of protest, which will include a march to the White House in Washington, D.C.

Doing nothing is doing something wrong

DANIEL SUNKARI
Contributing Writer

With a whopping 63.53 percent vote against the University Student Union referendum last week, hopes for renovating the university student union appear lost. Though the fee increase dissuaded students from supporting renovations, many still have thoughts on ways to improve the USU.

"Go back to the drawing board, give us more detailed information and try to lower your fee hikes because nobody was going to approve a $165 increase anyway," fourth year political science major Andrew Quesada said.

In this case, the question remains: if the fees shouldn't be increased, how do we come up with the money for renovation? There are ultimately three options: find a way to get the money without drastic fee increases, change the renovation plans or do nothing.

"If ASI really wants to renovate it, I would suggest that they look at their budget and what they're spending a lot of money on—probably needlessly," third year political science major Alexandria Contreras said. ASI should try to buy products and materials at cheaper costs and try to attract investors, Contreras said.

By turning to different funds, there is a possibility that smaller renovation needs can be met. Some of these include electrical, mechanical and plumbing issues. Altogether, according to the USU Board of Trustees, this would cost slightly above $13.5 million. The bulk cost of $99 million proposed by the referendum would require the student-rejected fee increase.

Although an expanded USU is a nice thought, its most pressing concerns can be dealt with separately from the bigger plans of renovation. As mentioned before, these small-scale changes would not require a vast fee increase.

"For me personally, I'd rather have something that works – and works well – even if it's not able to handle the whole mass of 35,000 students trying to use it," fifth year communications major Nathan Dickie said. "At least it's working at its maximum efficiency and is reliable."

The enormous opposition from California State University, Long Beach students seems to have silenced the issue for now.

But silence has its own repercussions.

"Though the referendum failed, it's our job to keep the USU running and to keep providing services for students," Chair of the USU Board of Trustees Vanessa Mendoza said. "Any facility issues that may come up—we want to try to resolve those by minimizing the impact to the students."

If these facility issues should be met, then the bare minimum effort should be made in order to take care of them. Though the referendum has failed, the basic facility and maintenance problems remain.

The student government should find a way to pay for the bare minimum in repairs.

"Doing nothing is not going to fix the existing problems," Dickie said. "It's just delaying the inevitable until [either] the building gets too outdated and renovation has to be done – with or without our vote – or a new structure has to be built in its place."

The USU has not been renovated for four years. Will efforts to make improvements be continued?

"I can't say that for sure," Mendoza said. "This building will need renovation eventually; it is very old.

Maybe future students and student leaders will decide to make major renovations, but for now, there aren't any plans, Mendoza said.

"We heard what [students] had to say, so now it's just up to us to do what we can with what we have," Mendoza said.

Daniel Sunkari is a first year journalism major.

"Go back to the drawing board, give us more detailed information and try to lower your fee hikes because nobody was going to approve a $165 increase anyway."

–Andrew Quesada,
4th year political science major

I'd rather have something that works – and works well – even if it's not able to handle the whole mass of 35,000 students trying to use it."

–Nathan Dickie,
5th year communications major

"We heard what [students] had to say, so now it's just up to us to do what we can with what we have."

–Vanessa Mendoza,
Chair of USU Board of Trustees

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Letters Policy: All letters and e-mail must bear the phone number of the writer and must be no more than 300 words. The Daily 49er reserves the right to edit letters for publication in regard to space.

10. Announcements

Summer Camp Counselor!
SUMMER OF YOUR LIFE!
CAMP WAYNE FOR GIRLS — Children's summer camp, Pennsylvania 6/20-8/16.
If you love children and want a caring, fun environment we need staff for the summer. Interviews on CSULB campus 2/19.
215.944.3069 or apply at
www.campwaynegirls.com
Email info@campwaynegirls.com

10. Announcements

Paid research study at the University of Washington
We are looking for men and women aged 18-25 years old to participate in a study on health behaviors.
Earn up to $75 in gift certificates of a select number of merchants.
Visit: http://depts.washington.edu/uwstarr

35. Employment Opportunites

Young Entrepreneur Program - Be your own boss
www.tinyurl.com/ebilane2

Summer Day Camps

Northern & Southern CA

Live at home, work at camp!

Now hiring counselors, lifeguards, instructors, & more!

DayCampJobs.com

THE CITY OF LA MIRADA IS HIRING!

SPLASH! AQUATICS POSITIONS
Swim Instructor/Lifeguard: $16.41 - $21.44 per hour
Swim Instructor: $13.38 - $18.92 per hour
Lifeguard: $13.38 - $18.92 per hour
Aquatic Aide: $9.72 - $11.33 per hour
Closing Date: Mon. March 20, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

Guest Services Associate: $11.54 to $18.28 per hour
Supervising Lifeguard: $20.66 - $25.87 per hour
Assistant Pool Technician: $20.66 - $25.87 per hour
Closing Date: Mon. March 30, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

RECREATION POSITIONS
Recreation Leader: $10.32- $13.22 per hour
Recreation Aide: $9.72 - $11.33 per hour
Closing Date: Mon. April 20, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

Senior Recreation Leader I: $12.76 - $17.02
Closing Date: Open until filled.

For more information or to apply online please visit www.cityoflamirada.org.

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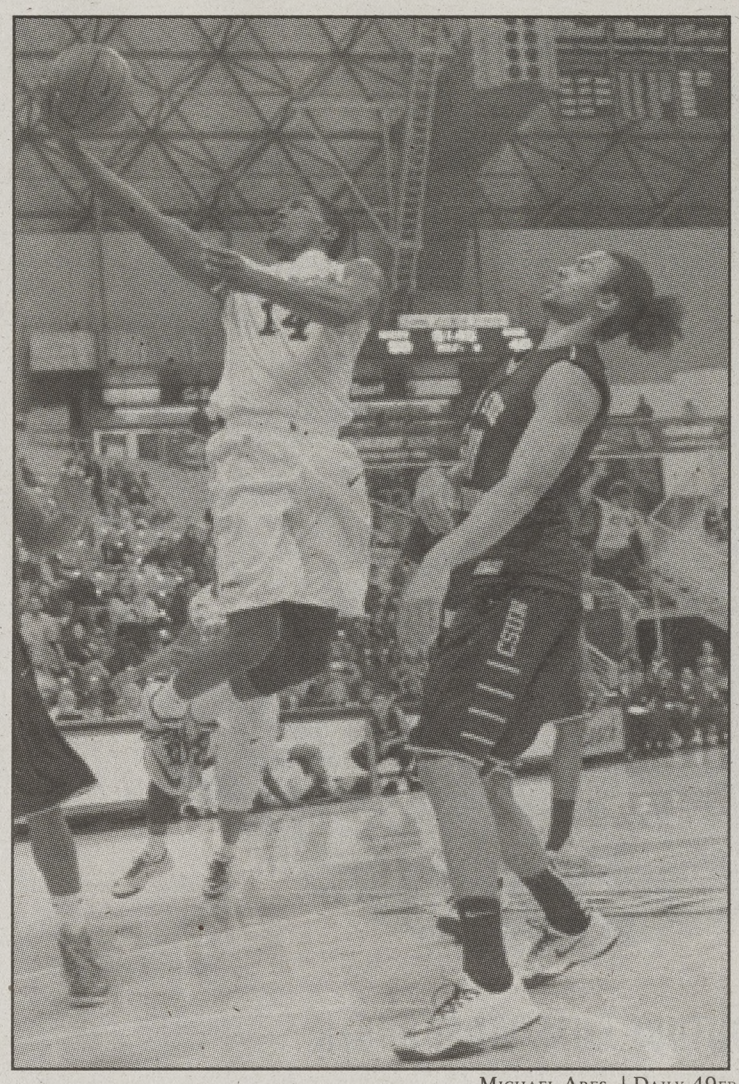
INDEX *(CIRCLE APPROPRIATE CLASSIFICATION)*

10. Announcements
11. Organizations
12. Typing
15. Volunteers
18. Insurance
20. Travel
25. Lost
26. Found
27. Legal Services
28. Child Care
30. School & Instruction
31. Internships
32. English Tutoring
33. Tutor Needed
34. Pets
35. Employment Opport.
36. Auditions
39. Jobs Wanted
40. Misc for Sale
41. Computers for Sale
43. Music Lessons
46. Boats
50. Apts./ Houses Wanted
52. Roommates Wanted
54. Apts. for Rent
56. Houses for Rent
57. Rooms for Rent
58. Condos for Rent
59. Condos for Sale
60. Houses for Sale
79. Motorcycles
84. Used Cars for Sale
86. Used Cars Wanted

Month:
AUG. SEPT. OCT. NOV.
DEC. JAN. FEB. MAR.
APR. MAY JUNE JULY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Men's Basketball



Michael Ares | Daily 49er

Long Beach State guard Branford Jones goes up for a layup against a Cal State Northridge defender on March 5 in the Walter Pyramid.

Tourney time

Big West coaches give their take on what's to come in the next three days.

By Oscar Terrones
Sports Editor

The men's basketball Big West Tournament will kick off Thursday at the Honda Center in Anaheim with eight teams vying for a single spot in the NCAA Tournament.

No. 1 seed UC Davis will enter the tournament as the favorite after the Aggies went 14-2 in conference and 24-5 overall. Big West Coach of the Year Jim Les said the team's role-players have been key to the team's success.

"We have a lot of unsung heroes that have accepted their roles and kind of put away their personal goals for the good of the team," Les said. "[Sophomore guard] Darius Graham is our energizer. It starts with him. The pace at which we play, he's the first line of defense out pressuring the ball. He has been stellar."

The Aggies will take on No. 8 Cal State Northridge at noon on Thursday. CSUN will have to prepare for Big West Player of the Year Corey Hawkins, who led the league in scoring at 20.6 points per game. Hawkins is one of two Aggies who average double-digit scoring.

"We thought all along we were going to be a pretty good offensive team," Les said. "Our offensive numbers get a lot of attention, but the success we've had has been directly attributed to our ability to defend."

No. 4 Long Beach State will take on No. 5 Hawaii in the second game of the day. The two teams split the season series, each winning their home game. Hawaii interim head coach Benjy Taylor said the 49ers have been the cream of the crop in the Big West for a while.

"I think [LBSU] knows it is go-time for them," Taylor said. "They have a lot of experienced guys. Mike Caffey is one of the best guards in the league. He'll be refreshed and rejuvenated. We'll have our hands full. I think it'll be a different team on Thursday than we've seen the last two games, and we have to be ready to make adjustments."

Monson said he thought his team was in a good place mentally and physically after a three-game winning streak to close out the season. He said the 49ers have to be prepared for Hawaii's intense defensive pressure.

"They personally challenge you when you have the ball," Monson said. "It's a man's challenge to be able to secure the ball when they're on defense and you're on offense. We've had mixed success over the two games. I think they've been up 14-2 in both games, and our guys have not been able to adjust to their aggressiveness and athleticism until 10 minutes into the game in both games."

In the third game of the day, No. 3 UC Irvine takes on No. 6 UC Riverside. The Anteaters have never made the NCAA Tournament, and head coach Russell Turner said the pressure of never making it is something he does not like to bring up to his team.

"I think that's a media narrative more than anything," Turner said. "Our guys understand as well as anybody the pressure of this tournament. We've known all year that his week is the most important week of our season."

Juniors Taylor Johns and Jaylen Bland lead Riverside in scoring at 16.3 and 15.5 PPG, respectively. Johns earned first-team all-Big West honors for the first time in his career. Bland earned second-team honors, and is the Highlander's best three-point shooter at 40 percent from deep.

Thursday's schedule will conclude with No. 2 seed UC Santa Barbara taking on reigning Big West Tournament champions Cal Poly. The Mustangs were the No. 7 seed last year when they made their run.

Cal Poly head coach Joe Callero said he was confident his team can beat anybody, but the Mustangs must stay focused on the Gauchos.

"Santa Barbara's beat us twice," Callero said. "They're the better team right now. We have a couple more days to lift weights and watch film and try to become a better team. The bad news is we're the seventh seed. We lost a few games down the stretch here [that we could have won]."

The Big West Tournament starts Thursday at noon at the Honda Center in Anaheim.

BRONX BORN, LONG BEACH BRED

The road from prep star to a college basketball force is complete for the 49er senior.

By Oscar Terrones
Sports Editor

The emergence of big man David Samuels as an all-conference caliber player gives the Long Beach State basketball team the inside presence that makes it a dangerous squad heading into the Big West Tournament.

The senior forward has come a long way, intellectually and literally, in his pursuit of an NCAA Tournament appearance and perhaps the professional basketball some day in the future. His hometown of the Bronx prepared him for whatever challenges were ahead.

"[New York] was a little rough, but I think that city helped me become the man I am today," Samuels said. "New York isn't an easy place to grow up and make it out of. I can attest to that."

Samuels made it out, though; he made it all the way to a prep school in Philadelphia for his senior year of high school. There, he committed, then quickly de-committed from Loyola Maryland because he felt he could go to a better school.

He decided to go the junior college route and ended up in Collin Community College in Plano, Texas after his high school coach recommended Samuels to Jim Sagona, the head coach at Collin CC.

After leading Collin CC to a combined 37-14 record in his two years in Plano, Samuels immediately jumped on every mid-major team's radar.

"I had like 20-something offers," Samuels said. "I ended up going to this top-100 camp from my junior college and from there I just blew up. A lot of schools back east [wanted me]. I got everybody's attention. I went against some good competition. My name was buzzing after that."

The buzz reached all the way to Long Beach State and head coach Dan Monson's ear. Samuels transferred to LBSU in the 2013-14 season and immediately played heavy minutes.

He started 29 games last year, scoring 6.1 points per game and grabbing 5.4 boards per game, relatively underwhelming numbers for a player with his size and athleticism. Samuels made a commitment this season to dominating the paint, and now he and the 49ers are reaping the benefits.

"I'm just playing the role that we need, not [necessarily] what I want," Samuels said. "We need rebounding. We need an inside presence. We need some blocks here and there. We need that momentum. I needed to change my game to what we needed and not to what I wanted."

Michael Ares | Daily 49er

Long Beach State forward David Samuels soars for a dunk in the second half against Cal State Northridge on March 5 in the Walter Pyramid. Samuels scored 19 points and had four blocks.

Samuels said he focused too much on being a perimeter player instead of going in the post last year. Monson said Samuels spent too much trying to prove how good a shooter he was, and this year, he can see the change in Samuels' game and demeanor.

"When he went bad last year it was for a game or a week or whatever, not for a half," Monson said. "That's what great players do. [They're] able to get back on track. He's done it the hard way, and that's going [in the paint]."

Samuels' maturity has helped him develop into one of the better big men in the Big West. He said he is more open to criticism and doesn't think he knows it all like he did when he was younger.

"[My biggest improvement is my] leadership," Samuels said. "The game has slowed down a lot for me. I'm able to see plays and take plays one step at a time and not rush."

Senior point guard Mike Caffey said Samuels' progression has been the key to the 49ers' success.

"He's turned into a rebounding force for us," Caffey said. "We've lacked that all season. He's doing a good job with that, and he's doing pretty well on offense too."

Samuels said his focus is on the Big West Tournament. His goal is to play in the NBA, and his head coach believes he can become a useful contributor in the pros.

"He's got a future right now because he's a better perimeter player than he's playing right now," Monson said. "I think he's very versatile and I think his best basketball is still ahead of him, hopefully in the next 10 days and beyond."